STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the First Report of Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): Sir, I lay a statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in First Report of Department-related Standing Committee on Agriculture.

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Twelfth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth and Eighteenth Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): Sir, I lay a statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Twelfth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth and Eighteenth Reports of the Department-related Parliamentay Standing Committee on Energy.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned till 2.30 p.m.

The House then adjourned at five minutes past twelve of the clock.

The House re-assembled at thirty minutes past two of the clock.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

Announcement of Bonus for Wheat for the Current Rabi Season

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, a statement by Shri Sharad Pawar.

श्री रूद्रनारायण पाणि (उड़ीसा): सर, ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आप स्टेटमेंट कीजिए ....(व्यवधान)...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि: सर, ...(व्यवधान)...प्राइवेट मैम्बर्स बिजनेस में ऐसा कैसे हो सकता है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: नहीं, नहीं ...(व्यवधान)...स्टेटमेंट है। ...(व्यवधान)...मंत्री जी, आप बोलिए। आप बोलिए।

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि (उड़ीसा): सर, ...(व्यवधान)...

कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत और पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुरेश पचौरी): यह स्टेटमेंट किसानों के हित में है, Let him make the Statement ...(व्यवधान)... यह किसानों के बोनस का मामला है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि: महोदय, ...(व्यवधान)...देश में किसानों की हत्याएं हुई हैं ...(व्यवधान)...किसानों की हत्या हो रही है ...(व्यवधान)...

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): Sir, Government have been concerned about the food security of the country and the need to increase productivity in agriculture. We have also been concerned about the deteriorating terms of trade in agriculture. It is our commitment that the farmers in this country will be given a better deal to ensure their well being and prosperity. Last year, we had no option to import Wheat to meet the needs of PDS and also the demands of the open market.

The minimum support price for wheat in 2000-01 was Rs. 580. It was Rs 630 in 2004-05, an increase of Rs 50 in four years.

When this Government came to power, this short-sighted policy had started showing its impact on production. The wheat production had fallen to low levels of 68 million tons in 2004-05. The production rose marginally to 69.35 million tons in 2005-06. Last year the MSP was Rs. 650 over which we announced a bonus of Rs 50 per quintal. This year we followed it up with an increase in MSP by 100 rupees making it Rs. 750 per quintal. The farmers responded admirably and have increased the area under wheat and have also increase productivity. But for the unseasonal rain and hail storms, we would have benefited from a bumper crop.

Government recognises this great effort. We are grateful to our farmers for this response. To give better returns to our farmers, Government has decided to declare a bonus of Rs 100 per quintal for this Rabi season. This

is in addition to the increase in MSP announced already. This will mean that the farmers will get Rs. 850 per quintal of wheat against Rs. 700 last year.

I sincerely hope that our farmers will welcome this announcement wholeheartedly and contribute more to our procurement operations. I would like to assure the farmers that the Government will do everything possible to support them get better returns from their land.

The Government is also committed to ensure that there is no shortage of wheat in the country. To avoid any shortage in the country, the Government has also decided to permit duty free import of wheat till 31st December, 2007.

The Government is committed to provide adequate food-grains to the poor sections of society, particularly the BPL and AAY through the public distribution system. It has also been decided that the Government will import, if necessary, adequate quantities of wheat to meet the requirements of the Public Distribution System, and other welfare schemes like Mid Day meals, ICDS, other employment and nutrition programmes etc. STC will be asked to take preparatory steps to import upto 3 million tons in case of need.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now Private Members' Business. *(Interruptions)*

श्री एस॰एस॰ अहलूवालिया (झारखंड): इसके साथ यह भी assurance हो कि अन्यथा किसानों की आत्महत्यायें नहीं होंगी ...(व्यवधान)... यह मांग तो सब की थी ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: यह क्या बात है ? ...(व्यवधान)... यह प्राइवेट मैम्बर्स बिजनेस है। ...(व्यवधान)... यह प्राइवेट मैम्बर्स बिजनेस है ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): Sir, I would like to raise a very important matter.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Not on Statement, please ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, a threatening letter is written to a judge of the Supreme Court. ...*(Interruptions)*... Such threatening letters have started reaching even the Supreme Court judges of the country. It is a very serious matter, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, it is a very serious matter...*(Interruptions)*..

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY (Karnataka): Sir, this is a very serious matter...(*Interruptions*).. A Judge ...(*Interruptions*)... in the court ...(*Interruptions*)..

श्री जयन्ती लाल बरोट (गुजरात): सर, यह सत्ता पार्टी वाले क्या करते हैं? ...(व्यवधान)...

क्या हाऊस नहीं चलने देंगे? ...(व्यवधान)... आप तो सरकार में बैठे हो।

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, it is a very serious matter ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री कलराज मिश्र (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, यह क्या हो रहा है? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सुरेन्द्र लाठ (उड़ीसा): सर, यह सरकारी पक्ष का तरीका है।...(व्यवधान)... किसानों की हत्या पर चुप हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir...(*Interruptions*)..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Narayanasamy, you can raise the issue on Monday...(*Interruptions*).. This is Private Members' Business. ...(*Interruptions*)..Let us take the Private Members' Bill...(*Interruptions*).. The House is adjourned for ten minutes.

The House then adjourned at thirty-seven minutes past two of the clock.

The House re-assembled at forty-seven minutes past two of the clock.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS

The National Films Development Authority Bill, 2006

SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI (Nominated): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a National Films Developments Authority for ensuring the overall development of film industry and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Sir, I introduce the Bill.